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5 JUL 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Limitation of NSA [ ] Material

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1. I have your memorandum of 17 June on the limitations of my access to NSA [ ] material. As I understand it, there are two separate cases:

a. One where the Attorney General's guidelines direct NSA not to disseminate certain types of information. You are telling me that the Attorney General has delegated this authority directly to one of my subordinates - the Director of NSA. I am curious as to whether the Secretary of Defense is privileged to see these materials, possibly in the course of deciding whether or not they come under the Attorney General's guidelines; whether the Director of NSA is so privileged or whether the delegation is to somebody on the ticker tape that brings the material into NSA.

b. Procedures established by the Director of NSA himself pertaining to sensitive information involving US officials. This bothers me because of the ethical issues involved. It is quite possible that this kind of sensitive information made available in the wrong hands in Washington could be utilized for personal power aggrandizement. I feel a sense, whether I have it or not legally, of responsibility for the ethical performance of the community as a whole. I don't think I can fulfill that function if a sensitive and ethical issue is beyond my control. In short, I wonder whether this procedure is established by General Allen on his own authority or whether he has a written directive of any kind from the Secretary of Defense.

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2. Are there analogous cases that pertain to CIA   Do we get raw material that could well have the type of information prohibited by the Attorney General's guidelines? Do we get material with sensitive naming of US individuals? If so, do we have analogous rules?

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STANSFIELD TURNER

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